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BOROUGH



OF LEIGH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR 1948

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BOROUGH OF LEIGH, 1948

Health Committee :*Chairman :*

Councillor T. HOURIGAN, C.C.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor W. HILTON

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor J. Parr, J.P.)

Alderman W. Collier, J.P.

Councillor Harry Gough

,, N. Fairhurst, J.P.

,, T. Haseldine, J.P.

,, H. Gough, J.P.

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,, W. Grundy, J.P.

,, W. Kearney, J.P.

,, W. Higenbottam, J.P.

,, Rev. R. J. King

,, W. Hindley, J.P.

,, F. Taylor

Councillor C. H. Bratt

,, W. Woolstencroft

,, E. Ditcher

,, E. Green

Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee :
(to 5th July, 1948)*Chairman :*

Councillor T. HOURIGAN, C.C.

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor J. Parr, J.P.)

Alderman N. Fairhurst, J.P.

Councillor W. Kearney, J.P.

,, H. Gough, J.P.

,, J. Parr

Councillor E. Green

,, F. Taylor

,, W. Hilton

,, W. Woolstencroft

,, S. Jones

*Co-opted Members :*The Mayoress (Mrs. A. Kearsley)
Mrs. V. Fairclough

Staff of Health Department :

Medical Officer of Health (whole time) :

Dr. JOSEPH WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (resigned July 5th, 1948).

Medical Officer of Health (part time) :

Dr. T. PATTON SEWELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from July 5th, 1948).

also

Divisional Medical Officer : Health Division No. II Lancashire County Council.

Divisional School Medical Officer, Lancashire County Council

Medical Officer of Health—Horwich Urban District

Medical Officer of Health—Tyldesley Urban District.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. CLUSKY

District Sanitary Inspectors :

G. Davies (from Nov. 1st, 1948)

A. L. Hope

H. Plinston

R. Thompson (resigned Sept. 30th, 1948)

Clerical Staff :

Miss H. M. Dixon (resigned October, 1948)

Miss H. Carruthers (resigned July 5th, 1948)

Mr. E. H. Haslam (from December, 1948)

Miss B. M. Parr (from January, 1948)

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,

LEIGH.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.

I beg to place before you, for your information and consideration, the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1948.

The year has seen many far reaching administrative changes consequent upon the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act on the 5th of July. On that date, as intimated in the previous Annual Report, all the personal health services which had been provided up to then by the Borough Council, passed under the administrative control of the Lancashire County Council as the Local Health Authority. Only those services essentially concerned with environmental hygiene remained untransferred.

It is only possible, therefore, to report in any detail upon the transferred services for the first six months of the year. In fact the Report covers, in effect, two well defined periods and should be read in that light.

Births.

There have been less births in 1948 than in 1947. The total number of registered births assignable to the Borough during the year under review is 900, being a decrease of 96 births on last year. The figure comprises 864 live births and 36 still births and includes 33 illegitimate births. The Birth Rate has dropped from 22.2 in 1947 to 17.9 in 1948, the Still Birth Rate from 41 to 40, while the illegitimate Birth Rate remains virtually unchanged at 37. The Birth Rate for the Borough is the same as that for England and Wales as a whole, the latter Rate also having fallen.

Infantile Deaths.

The number of infants who died before reaching their first birthday was 32, being 22 less than in 1947. The Infantile Mortality Rate for 1948 is thus 37, being 14 below the Rate for 1947 and the lowest Rate yet recorded for the Borough.

Maternal Deaths.

Unfortunately one mother lost her life as the result of child birth during the year. Last year there was no such death. The Maternal Mortality Rate has, in consequence, risen from zero in 1947 to 1.15 this year.

Tuberculosis Deaths.

The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, at 17 is one less than last year and reduces the Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate from 0.38 to 0.35. On the other hand, the number of deaths from non pulmonary forms of tuberculosis has increased from one to three. As, however, the estimated population of the Borough has also increased from 47,190 to 48,220, the total Tuberculosis Death Rate remains virtually unchanged at 0.41.

Total Deaths.

The total number of deaths from all causes assignable to the Borough for the year 1948 amounts to 549 as compared with 604 in 1947. The Death Rate has fallen, therefore, from 12.7 to 11.3. Once again diseases of the heart and blood vessels have accounted for the majority of the deaths; cancer in its various forms being the second most prevalent cause. There were no deaths reported as a result of road traffic accidents or from the infectious diseases influenza, cerebro-spinal fever, whooping cough, measles typhoid or paratyphoid fever, diphtheria or poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis).

The Firs Maternity Home.

On the 5th July, 1948, like all hospitals and maternity homes, with certain exceptions, the Firs Maternity Home was transferred to the administrative care of the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee and with it the ante-natal clinic held in the premises of the Stonehouse Welfare Clinic, Leigh. Even so, it was necessary for some time after that date to continue the medical supervision of the Home pending the appointment of a Medical Superintendent by the Regional Hospital Board. There being no accommodation available at the Home for an ante-natal Clinic, sessions have continued to be held weekly throughout the year at the Stonehouse Clinic under arrangements made with the Lancashire County Council to whom the Clinic premises were transferred. This has been an amicable arrangement concentrating the Leigh ante-natal facilities, as before, under one roof.

As previously reported, the available accommodation remains inadequate both in size and in the facilities available. The inadequacy has been underlined by the increasing number of expectant mothers seeking hospital confinement and by the number of major abnormal cases which have had to be conveyed some distance to one of the larger and better equipped Maternity Hospitals in the immediate neighbourhood. It is to be hoped that the Council's pre-war plans to expand and improve the facilities available will bear fruit in the not too distant future under the provisions of the National Health Service Act. At the time of writing it is known that the Regional Hospital Board is taking active steps in this direction.

Up to the 5th of July, 1948, 217 expectant mothers were admitted to the Home. During this period 212 of them were delivered, 188 normally and 24 by instrumental means. In only 2 cases was it necessary to transfer the mother to a Maternity Hospital for delivery, one to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, and the other to Park Hospital, Davyhulme.

Since the 5th July no fees have been recoverable and no doubt because of this in some measure, certain fees due for services rendered immediately prior to this date, have not so far been recovered.

Maternity Cases Admitted to other Hospitals.

The Borough Council continued to accept financial responsibility for maternity cases which required to be admitted to other hospitals for obstetric, medical or domestic reasons up to the 5th July ; the cost being recovered from patients according to their circumstances.

Clinics.

The clinic premises and facilities provided by the Council at four centres were fully transferred to the Lancashire County Council on the 5th July, 1948.

A variety of pathological conditions received benefit from attendance at the Artificial Sunlight Clinic, 92 school children and 22 pre-school children attending up to the date of transfer. Debility and adenitis comprised the majority of disabilities so treated.

Orthopaedic cases have been sent to the Lancashire County Council's Clinic at Tyldesley as previously. Eye, ear, nose and throat cases have similarly been referred to the appropriate special clinic.

Full use has been made of the Welfare Clinics at Stonehouse, Coalpit Lane, Nangreaves Street and Chapel Street, a total of 3,568 attendances being made during the first half of the year. Baby foods were also available, being issued free in necessitous cases.

Health Visiting Service.

The Borough Council continued to provide the services of five Health Visitors up to the 5th July when the Service was transferred to the Lancashire County Council. Up to that time, 1595 health visits had been made.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Five full-time and two part-time midwives remained employed by the Borough up to the date of transfer. Four of the full-time midwives each had her own area of practice, the fifth acting as relief for holidays, sickness, etc.

Home Help Service.

One home help was available during the first half of the year. Demands for the service steadily increased and it is evident that the service will have to be considerably augmented to meet the growing need. The Service was transferred to the Lancashire County Council on the 5th July.

Day Nursery.

The Day Nursery adjoining the Stonehouse Clinic has continued throughout the period to accommodate up to 50 children. The demand for vacancies has been considerable and the waiting list is long. The Nursery came under the administrative control of the Lancashire County Council on the 5th July.

Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance Service, though transferred to the Lancashire County Council on the 5th July, has continued to operate from the Depot at the Firs Maternity Home. Accommodation and facilities available at the Depot are limited.

Infectious Disease.

1,206 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year being an increase of 221 on the previous year and 637 on the notifications received in 1946. The bulk of the notifications were measles 581, scarlet

fever 444, and whooping cough 111. The notifications of measles are less than in the previous year but those for scarlet fever have been nearly doubled while those for whooping cough have multiplied over five times being only 19 in 1947.

There were 5 cases of diphtheria as against 7 in 1947 ; 3 of pneumonia as against 42 in 1947 ; 7 of puerperal pyrexia as against 8 in 1947 ; 3 of ophthalmia neonatorum as against 5 in 1947 and one case of poliomyelitis as against 9 in the previous year. No case of enteric fever or cerebro-spinal fever was reported. A total of 54 new cases of tuberculosis were notified, 42 being pulmonary infections and 12 non-pulmonary infections. During the year 20 tuberculous persons died, 17 of whom suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis and 3 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Sanitary Circumstances.

Information and statistics in regard to sanitary circumstances including water supplies, housing and supervision of food supplies will be found in the body of the report.

Appreciation.

In conclusion I wish to place on record my grateful thanks to the chief Officials of the Council and to the Staff of the Public Health Department in particular for their unfailing help and co-operation during a very busy and most difficult six months.

To you Mr. Chairman and Members of the Health Committee I am equally grateful for your support, continued interest and forbearance.

T. PATTON SEWELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1947 and 1948 :—

| | 1947 | 1948 |
|--|--------|--------|
| Population | 47,190 | 48,220 |
| Number of Deaths (corrected) | 604 | 549 |
| Death Rate (per 1,000 population)... .. | 12.7 | 11.3 |
| Deaths of Infants under one year | 54 | 32 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 registered live births)... .. | 51 | 37 |
| Number of Live births registered (corrected) | 1049 | 864 |
| Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) | 22.2 | 17.9 |
| Number of Still births (corrected)... .. | 45 | 36 |
| Still birth rate (per 1,000 total births)... .. | 41 | 40 |
| Number of illegitimate Births | 41 | 33 |
| illegitimate Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births) | 37.48 | 37 |
| Maternal Deaths | Nil | 1 |
| Maternity Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) | Nil | 1.15 |
| Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 18 | 17 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis... .. | 0.38 | 0.35 |
| Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis | 19 | 20 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population from all forms of Tuberculosis | 0.40 | 0.41 |

Local Statistics.

The Borough covers an area of 6,359 acres.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Population (Census 1931) | 45,317 |
| No. of inhabited houses end of 1948 according to rate books | 14,280 |
| Rateable value | £243,825 |
| Sum represented by Penny Rate... .. | £970 |

Causes of Death for the Year 1948

| Cause of Death | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-------|---------|-------|
| Heart disease | 70 | 84 | 154 |
| Cancer | 41 | 40 | 81 |
| Intra-cran. vasc. lesions | 26 | 37 | 63 |
| Bronchitis | 32 | 12 | 44 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system | 14 | 12 | 26 |
| Tuberculosis | 12 | 8 | 20 |
| Pneumonia... .. | 13 | 5 | 18 |
| Con. Mal. birth inj. inft. dis. | 12 | 6 | 18 |
| Other digestive diseases... .. | 3 | 8 | 11 |
| Nephritis | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Other respiratory diseases | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Suicide | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Premature birth | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Other violent Deaths | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Diabetes Mellitus | — | 3 | 3 |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Syphilitis | 2 | — | 2 |
| Scarlet Fever | — | 1 | 1 |
| Acute inf. encephalitis | — | 1 | 1 |
| Ulcer of stomach | 1 | — | 1 |
| Appendicitis | 1 | — | 1 |
| Puerperal and post abortive sepsis | — | 1 | 1 |
| All other causes | 30 | 33 | 63 |
| | 279 | 270 | 549 |

Comparable General Death Rates

| | Leigh | 148 Smaller Towns | England and Wales |
|------------|-------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1922... .. | 14.5 | 11.7 | 12.9 |
| 1923... .. | 12.1 | 10.6 | 11.6 |
| 1924... .. | 12.1 | 11.2 | 12.2 |
| 1925... .. | 14.8 | | 12.2 |
| 1926... .. | 13.3 | 10.6 | 11.6 |
| 1927... .. | 12.7 | 11.3 | 12.3 |
| 1928... .. | 12.7 | 10.6 | 11.7 |
| 1929... .. | 15.5 | 12.3 | 13.4 |
| 1930... .. | 10.5 | 10.5 | 11.4 |
| 1931... .. | 11.9 | 11.3 | 12.3 |
| 1932... .. | 13.0 | 10.8 | 12.0 |
| 1933... .. | 13.8 | 11.0 | 12.3 |
| 1934... .. | 13.8 | 11.3 | 11.8 |
| 1935... .. | 15.3 | 11.2 | 11.7 |
| 1936... .. | 15.8 | 11.5 | 12.1 |
| 1937... .. | 14.4 | 11.9 | 12.4 |
| 1938... .. | 11.9 | 11.0 | 11.6 |
| 1939... .. | 15.47 | 11.2 | 12.1 |
| 1940... .. | 16.65 | 12.8 | 14.3 |
| 1941... .. | 11.72 | 13.0 | 12.9 |
| 1942... .. | 12.13 | 12.1 | 11.6 |
| 1943... .. | 12.51 | 12.7 | 12.1 |
| 1944... .. | 12.7 | 12.4 | 11.6 |
| 1945... .. | 12.5 | 12.3 | 11.5 |
| 1946... .. | 11.5 | 11.7 | 11.4 |
| 1947... .. | 12.7 | 11.9 | 12.0 |
| 1948... .. | 11.3 | 10.7 | 10.8 |

| Statistics for 1948, 1947 and the period 1943—1948 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|--|
| | Per 1000 Estimated Population | | | | Maternal Mortality Rate | | Infant Mor- tality Rate | | |
| | Live Birth Rate | Crude Death Rate | Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis | Death Rate from Cancer | Rate per 1000 live births | Per 1000 total live and still births | per 1000 live births | | |
| BOROUGH OF LEIGH | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean of 5 years (1943 to 1947) | 20.1 | 12.3 | 0.29 | 1.71 | 1.66 | 1.60 | 57 | | |
| Year 1947 | 22.2 | 12.7 | 0.31 | 1.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 51 | | |
| Year 1948 | 17.9 | 11.3 | 0.35 | 1.67 | 1.15 | 1.11 | 37 | | |
| Increase or decrease in 1947 on 5 years average (1943 to 1947) | -2.2 | -1.0 | +0.06 | -0.04 | -0.51 | -0.49 | -20 | | |
| Increase or decrease in 1948 on 1947 | -4.3 | -1.4 | +0.04 | -0.13 | +1.15 | +1.11 | -14 | | |

Birth Rate.

The total number of registered live births assignable to the Borough of Leigh for the year 1948 was 864 as compared with 1,049 in the previous year. The corresponding Birth Rate for the two years respectively are 17.9 and 22.2 per 1,000 of estimated population. The Birth Rate for the Borough, England and Wales and 148 Towns with populations 25,000—50,000 during the last 25 years is shown in the following table :—

Comparative Birth Rate

| | Leigh | 148 Smaller Towns | England and Wales |
|------------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1923... .. | 18.2 | 19.8 | 19.7 |
| 1924... .. | 17.6 | 18.9 | 18.8 |
| 1925... .. | 17.8 | | |
| 1926... .. | 17.2 | 17.6 | 17.8 |
| 1927... .. | 15.3 | 16.4 | 16.7 |
| 1928... .. | 16.3 | 16.6 | 16.7 |
| 1929... .. | 13.7 | 16.0 | 16.3 |
| 1930... .. | 14.5 | 16.2 | 16.3 |
| 1931... .. | 15.7 | 15.6 | 15.8 |
| 1932... .. | 14.8 | 15.4 | 15.3 |
| 1933... .. | 14.5 | 14.5 | 14.4 |
| 1934... .. | 14.0 | 15.0 | 14.8 |
| 1935... .. | 13.6 | 14.8 | 14.7 |
| 1936... .. | 12.8 | 15.0 | 14.8 |
| 1937... .. | 13.5 | 15.3 | 14.9 |
| 1938... .. | 15.3 | 15.4 | 15.1 |
| 1939... .. | 14.5 | 15.6 | 15.0 |
| 1940... .. | 15.5 | 15.7 | 14.6 |
| 1941... .. | 18.1 | 16.4 | 14.2 |
| 1942... .. | 18.3 | 18.4 | 15.8 |
| 1943... .. | 19.8 | 19.4 | 16.5 |
| 1944... .. | 19.3 | 20.9 | 17.6 |
| 1945... .. | 18.8 | 19.2 | 16.1 |
| 1946... .. | 20.4 | 21.3 | 19.1 |
| 1947... .. | 22.2 | 22.2 | 20.5 |
| 1948... .. | 17.9 | 19.2 | 17.9 |

Still Birth Rate.

The total number of registered still births assignable to the Borough during the year 1948, was 36 as compared with 45 in the previous year. The corresponding rates for the two years were 0.74 and 0.95 (per 1,000 total population). The still birth rate for England and Wales during the year 1948 was 0.42.

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|----------------------|-------|
| England & Wales | 126 C.B.'s and Great Towns including London. | 148 Smaller Town (Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census) | London Admin. County | Leigh |
|-----------------|--|---|----------------------|-------|

Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population

Births—

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Live Births... | 17.90(a) | 20.00 | 19.20 | 20.10 | 17.90 |
| Still Births... | 0.42(a) | 0.52 | 0.43 | 0.39 | 0.74 |

Deaths—

| | | | | | |
|---|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| All Causes ... | 10.80(a) | 11.60 | 11.70 | 11.60 | 11.30 |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Diphtheria ... | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Tuberculosis ... | 0.51 | 0.59 | 0.46 | 0.63 | 0.41 |
| Influenza ... | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.00 |
| Smallpox ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ... | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.02 |
| Pneumonia... | 0.41 | 0.38 | 0.36 | 0.54 | 0.37 |

Notifications (Corrected)—

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Typhoid Fever ... | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Paratyphoid Fever ... | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Cerebro-spinal fever... | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.00 |
| Scarlet Fever ... | 1.73 | 1.90 | 1.82 | 1.37 | 9.20 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 3.42 | 3.51 | 3.31 | 3.13 | 2.23 |
| Diphtheria ... | 0.08 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.10 | 0.00 |
| Erysipelas ... | 0.21 | 0.23 | 0.21 | 0.22 | 0.26 |
| Smallpox ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles ... | 9.34 | 9.75 | 8.84 | 9.17 | 12.05 |
| Pneumonia... | 0.73 | 0.84 | 0.60 | 0.57 | 0.80 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.00 |
| Acute Polioencephalitis ... | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 |

Rates per 1,000 Live Births

Deaths—

| | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| All causes under 1 year of age ... | 34(b) | 39 | 32 | 31 | 37 |
| Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ... | 3.3 | 4.5 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 3.49 |

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

Notifications (Corrected)—

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Puerperal fever and pyrexia | 6.89 | 8.90 | 4.71 | 7.34 | 7.77 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population.

(b) Per 1,000 related births.

Firs Maternity Home

Particulars of the work done in the Home are given in the following summary :—

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Patients admitted | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 217 |
| Live births... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 209 |
| Still births | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Total births | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 212 |
| Normal deliveries | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 188 |
| Instrumental deliveries | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24 |
| Patients X-rayed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42 |

Mothers transferred before delivery :—

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| To St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Park Hospital, Davyhulme | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Total Births in the Firs Maternity Home

| | Live-births | Stillbirths | Total |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| 1931 | 163 | 9 | 172 |
| 1932 | 189 | 5 | 194 |
| 1933 | 209 | 15 | 224 |
| 1934 | 242 | 9 | 251 |
| 1935 | 254 | 9 | 263 |
| 1936 | 234 | 11 | 245 |
| 1937 | 319 | 11 | 330 |
| 1938 | 443 | 17 | 460 |
| 1939 | 485 | 20 | 505 |
| 1940 | 451 | 12 | 463 |
| 1941 | 385 | 7 | 392 |
| 1942 | 394 | 8 | 402 |
| 1943 | 443 | 10 | 453 |
| 1944 | 404 | 18 | 422 |
| 1945 | 317 | 8 | 325 |
| 1946 | 465 | 13 | 478 |
| 1947 | 464 | 11 | 475 |
| 1948 (To July 4th, 1948) | 209 | 3 | 212 |

Artificial Sunlight January 1st to July 4th, 1948

| Conditions Treated | School Children | Pre-School Children |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Anaemia | 10 | — |
| Asthma | 1 | — |
| Bow-legs | — | 1 |
| Bronchitis | 8 | — |
| Cervical Adenitis | 17 | 2 |
| Debility | 20 | 6 |
| Debility following Osteomyelitis | 1 | — |
| Enuresis | 2 | — |
| Flat Chest | 1 | — |
| General Debility | 16 | 4 |
| Loss of energy | 1 | — |
| Old hip joint disease | 1 | — |
| Poor Posture and Pale | 3 | — |
| Post Pneumonia | — | 1 |
| Recurrent Colds | 6 | — |
| Submaxillary Adenitis | 1 | — |
| Underweight | 4 | 8 |

Infant Welfare Clinics (Jan. 1 to July 4)

| | Stone House | Coalpit Lane | N'greaves Street | Chapel Street | Total |
|---|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|-------|
| Children weighed... .. | 1180 | 531 | 698 | 1159 | 3568 |
| Admissions to register | 78 | 55 | 67 | 56 | 256 |
| Attendances Infants ... | 1090 | 499 | 628 | 1137 | 3354 |
| Attendances Pre-school children | 90 | 32 | 70 | 22 | 214 |
| Consultations Infants ... | 189 | 111 | 64 | 114 | 478 |
| Consultations Pre-School children... .. | 32 | 17 | 12 | 3 | 64 |
| Totals | 2659 | 1245 | 1539 | 2491 | 7934 |

**Visits paid by Health Visitors from January 1st, 1948
to July 5th, 1948**

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Visits to expectant mothers— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | First visits... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| (b) | Total visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Visits to Children under 1 year of age— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | First visits... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 349 |
| (b) | Total visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 665 |
| Visits to Children between 1 and 5 years of age— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | First visits... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 127 |
| (b) | Total visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 513 |
| Visits to Notified births— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | Premature | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| (b) | Others | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 139 |
| Visits to Non-notified births— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | Premature | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| (b) | Others | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Visits to Infant Deaths | | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Visits to Puerperal Pyrexia | | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Visits to other infectious diseases | | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Miscellaneous... | | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 256 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | 1595 |

**Issue of Dried Milk and other Foods
at Infant Welfare Centres**

| Class | No. Issued | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------|
| | Free | Sales |
| Dried Milk | 53 | 9577 |
| Chocolate Milk | — | 29 |
| Emulsion... .. | 6 | 9 |
| Cod Liver Oil and Malt | 1022 | 93 |
| Maltoline... .. | 1 | 44 |
| Glucose | — | 278 |
| Viol | — | 629 |
| I.C.D. Tablets | — | 1188 |
| Lactogol | — | 49 |
| Nadola | — | 19 |

Ambulance Service

No. of cases conveyed :—

(a) To and from local institutions :—

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Leigh Infirmary... .. | 2476 |
| Public Assistance Institution | 78 |

(b) To and from institutions outside the Borough :—

| | |
|---|-----|
| Manchester Royal Infirmary | 18 |
| St. Mary's Hospitals, Manchester... .. | 95 |
| Hope Hospital | 5 |
| Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan | 19 |
| Salford Royal Infirmary | 29 |
| Bolton Infirmary | 22 |
| Manchester Royal Eye Hospital | 52 |
| Christie's Hospital, Manchester | 45 |
| Royal Manchester Children's Hospital | 54 |
| Other Manchester Hospitals... .. | 42 |
| Other Hospitals | 114 |

(c) Other causes (mortuary, pit and street accidents, etc.)... 52

(d) Total number of cases dealt with (excluding transport of Midwives) 3332

(e) Transport of domiciliary midwives 146

(f) Mileage covered 22880

(g) Petrol drawn (gallons) 2380

| Incidence and Mortality of Tuberculosis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|-----|-----------------|----|-------------|---|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Age periods | | | | | | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | | |
| | | | | | | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | | |
| Under 1 year | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| 1 year | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | — | |
| 5 | „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | |
| 10 | „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| 15 | „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | |
| 20 | „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | |
| 25 | „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | — | — | — | |
| 35 | „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | |
| 45 | „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 2 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | |
| 55 | „ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| 65 and upwards | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | — | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | |
| Totals | | | | | | ... | ... | 24 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 7 | 3 | — |
| | | | | | | 42 | | 12 | | 17 | | 3 | | | |

Incidence and Mortality of Tuberculosis, 1938—1948

| | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Notified cases :— | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Respiratory | 35 | 35 | 29 | 33 | 34 | 31 | 32 | 21 | 24 | 42 |
| (b) Non-Respiratory | 16 | 16 | 14 | 9 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 12 |
| Deaths :— | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Respiratory | 19 | 31 | 20 | 26 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 18 | 17 |
| (b) Non-Respiratory | 4 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 |

Summary of the incidence of the principal notifiable diseases :—

| | 1947 | 1948 |
|------------------------------|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever | 272 | 444 |
| Diphtheria | 7 | 5 |
| Measles | 615 | 581 |
| Whooping Cough... .. | 19 | 111 |
| Pneumonia | 42 | 39 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia... .. | 8 | 7 |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever | 1 | — |
| Dysentery... .. | 1 | 2 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 5 | 3 |
| Erysipelas | 5 | 13 |
| Typhoid | 1 | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 9 | 1 |
| | 985 | 1206 |

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

| Disease | Under 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 10— | | 15— | | 20— | | 35— | | 45— | | 65 & over | | Total | |
|------------------------------|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|---|-----|----|-----|---|-----|---|-----------|-----|-------|-----|
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Scarlet Fever ... | — | — | 8 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 12 | 14 | 19 | 14 | 93 | 104 | 46 | 68 | 10 | 8 | 11 | 11 | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | 206 | 238 |
| Diphtheria ... | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | |
| Measles ... | 13 | 15 | 42 | 45 | 41 | 41 | 48 | 47 | 62 | 48 | 86 | 91 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 294 | 287 | |
| Whooping Cough ... | 6 | 4 | 7 | 12 | 11 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 56 | 55 | |
| Pneumonia ... | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 3 | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | — | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 22 | 17 | |
| Puerperal pyrexia ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | |
| Cerebro spinal fever | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Dysentery... .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | |
| Ophthalmia | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | |
| Neonatorum ... | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | |
| Erysipelas | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | 6 | 7 | |
| Acute Polioen- cephalitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | |
| Scabies ... | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | — | 8 | 20 | 11 | 10 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 32 | 56 | |

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

During the year, 1948, the Sanitary Inspectors made a total of 1,267 primary inspections and 3,045 re-inspections of dwelling houses under the Public Health Act, 1936, for the investigation and abatement of nuisances. Many other visits in general sanitary administration were also made, details of which are given in the following paragraphs.

Infectious Disease—Investigation and Disinfection.

464 visits of investigation and 42 re-visits were paid to premises where infectious and other notifiable diseases had occurred. In addition 595 visits were made by the Disinfecting Staff for the purpose of carrying out disinfection on account of the occurrence of notifiable or other diseases.

Disinfestation.

142 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors in the course of the investigation of verminous premises.

A total of 90 premises were disinfested as follows :—

67 (245 rooms) Corporation houses, 11 (41 rooms) Private houses, 12 (50 rooms) miscellaneous premises including shops, warehouses, workers hostels, canteens and institutions. Where requested, owners and the Corporation Housing Department, co-operated in the easing of woodwork to facilitate the work of disinfestation. The use of D.D.T. for the eradication of insect pests was continued during the year. D.D.T. has proved satisfactory for dealing with bugs, fleas, beetles, silverfish and other insects. Gammexane has proved successful applied as a powder using a blower when dealing with cockroaches.

D.D.T. according to circumstances has been used as a spray in 5% solution of white spirit or as an emulsion with water.

Testing of Drainage Systems.

70 smoke and 15 colour tests were applied during the year to drainage systems which were suspected of being defective. Where drains were defective the works of repair were supervised by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Testing of new drainage is carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department.

Closet Accommodation.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| No. of fresh water closets | 14,228 |
| No. of waste water closets... .. | 376 |
| No. of trough closets | 21 'schools' |
| No. of pail closets... .. | 24 |
| Privy middens | 20 |

During the year 27 waste water closets were converted into pedestal water closets. A sum of £8 or one half the cost of conversion whichever is the less, is paid to the owner on completion of conversion.

Pail closets and privy middens are situated in the semi-rural area of the Borough where it has not been practicable to provide water closets owing to the fact that sewers are not available.

Houses-let-in-Lodgings.

Frequent visits were made during the year with a view to remedying any defects found and ensuring that there was compliance with the Bye-Laws.

Canal Boats.

There were no new registrations of Canal Boats during the year.

12 inspections were made, the object being to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936. One infringement was found and remedied.

There were no cases of infectious disease on any Canal Boat and it was not necessary to detain any boat for cleansing or disinfection.

Offensive Trades.

There are two tripe dressers and 1 Fat Melter within the Borough. These premises were regularly visited by the Sanitary Inspectors to ensure that there was compliance with the Bye-Laws and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. A high standard has been maintained by the owners of the businesses.

Common-Lodging Houses.

There are no Common Lodging Houses situated within the Borough.

Rag Flock Act, 1911—1928.

There are no premises where rag flock is manufactured. In all cases where rag flock was used it was obtained under guarantee to comply with the standard specified in the Act.

Public Baths.

The Public Baths consists of two plunges and 13 slipper baths. Facilities are available for Turkish Baths.

During the year 37 samples of swimming bath water were submitted for bacteriological examination. All were found to be satisfactory.

Refuse Collection.

This service is under the control of the Director of Cleansing who has supplied the following information :—

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|
| No. of moveable ashbins | ... | ... | ... | 15,315 |
| No. of privy middens emptied | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| No. of ashbins emptied | ... | ... | ... | 742,348 |
| Refuse dealt with at Destructor | ... | ... | ... | 445 tons |
| Refuse delivered to Tip | ... | ... | ... | 10,907 tons, 1 cwt. |

Shops Acts, 1912—1938.

A total of 215 visits for all purposes were made during the year.

The Shops Act, 1934, concerns the health and comfort of employees in wholesale and retail shop premises. 18 Informal notices were served under this Section and in 10 cases the necessary remedial measures had been taken by the end of the year.

Water Supply.

The supply is taken in bulk from the Rivington reservoirs of the Liverpool Corporation, being chlorinated before its distribution in the Borough.

During the course of the year 53 samples of drinking water were submitted for bacteriological examination and found satisfactory.

Eight samples were taken for chemical analysis. The results shewed that the plumbo-solvency action continues rather high. In all other respects the water is satisfactory.

The table on page 23 shews the results of chemical analysis :—

Examination of water samples (parts per 100,000).

| Date | Sample | Colour | Turbidity | Oxygen Absorbed (4 hrs. at 27° C.) | Free & Saline Ammonia (as NH ₃) | Albuminoid Ammonia (as NH ₃) | Nitrous Nitrogen (as NH ₃) | Nitric Nitrogen (as NH ₃) | Chlorides (as C l) | Hardness, Clarke's Method | | | Reaction pH | Action on Lead 24 hours | Metal |
|----------|--------|-----------|----------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------------------------|-------|
| | | | | | | | | | | Temp. | Permanent | Total | | | |
| 19- 1-48 | 1. | Brownish | Brown Deposit | 0.364 | 0.0824 | 0.156 | Traces | 0.07 | 3.1 | — | — | — | 5.5 | — | — |
| 19- 1-48 | 2. | Yellowish | Slight Black Deposit | 0.316 | 0.1144 | 0.0192 | Nil | 0.08 | 6.0 | — | — | — | 8.0 | — | — |
| 19- 1-48 | 3. | Yellowish | Slight Deposit | 0.618 | 0.1066 | 0.0160 | Traces | 0.50 | 25.0 | — | — | — | 8.0 | — | — |
| 11- 2-48 | 4. | Normal | Nil | 0.119 | 0.0102 | 0.0088 | Nil | 0.02 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 6.0 | 7.0 | 5.5 | 0.20 | — |
| 22- 4-48 | 5. | Normal | Slight Deposit | 0.00457 | 0.0048 | 0.0056 | Nil | 0.029 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 5.0 | 6.9 | 7.0 | 0.22 | Nil |
| 26- 5-48 | 6. | Normal | Nil | 0.66 | 0.0012 | 0.0060 | Nil | 0.05 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 6.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 0.08 | Nil |
| 8- 9 -48 | 7. | Normal | Slight Deposit | 0.0208 | 0.0056 | 0.0048 | Nil | 0.0090 | 0.86 | 4.9 | 5.2 | 10.1 | 5.5 | 0.22 | Nil |
| 9-11-48 | 8. | Normal | Nil | 0.051 | 0.0024 | 0.0056 | Nil | 0.04 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 6.0 | 7.0 | 5.5 | 0.16 | Nil |

Factories.

The following table gives particulars of the inspections during the year under Part One of the Factories Act, 1937, and an analysis of the defects which were found, with particulars of the action taken.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces — Defects Found

| Particulars (1) | No. of Defects | | | Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutionh were instituted (5) |
|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | Found (2) | Remedied (3) | Referred to H.M. Inspector (4) | |
| Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :— | | | | |
| Want of cleanliness... .. | 7 | 7 | — | — |
| Want of ventilation... .. | 3 | 2 | 1 | — |
| Overcrowding | — | — | — | — |
| Want of drainage of floors ... | 3 | 3 | — | — |
| Other nuisances | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences :— | | | | |
| Insufficient | 6 | 7 | — | — |
| Unsuitable or defective | 6 | 5 | — | — |
| Not separate for sexes | 1 | 2 | — | — |
| Other offences | 12 | 3 | — | — |
| TOTALS... .. | 38 | 29 | 1 | — |

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

| Premises (1) | No. of Inspections (2) | No. of Written Notices (3) | No. of Occupiers prosecuted (4) |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Factories with mechanical power | 54 | 22 | — |
| Factories without mechanical power ... | 122 | 12 | — |
| Other premises | 3 | — | — |
| TOTALS | 179 | 34 | — |

Under Part VIII of the Act, 2 visits were made to premises occupied by one out-worker. The premises were satisfactory.

Summary of Visits of Sanitary Inspectors.

In the table below are given, in summarised form, particulars of the visits and general work of the staff of Sanitary Inspectors in the year 1948.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1. | Visits to Dwelling houses affected by nuisances | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4312 |
| 2. | ,, , Infectious or other Notifiable disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 464 |
| 3. | ,, , Premises on account of Overcrowding | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 74 |
| 5. | ,, , Premises on account of vermin | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 142 |
| 6. | ,, , Cowsheds and Farms | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 119 |
| 7. | ,, , Dairies and Milkshops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 118 |
| 8. | ,, , Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 149 |
| 9. | ,, , Offensive Trades | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| 10. | ,, , Factories | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 176 |
| 11. | ,, , Schools | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 41 |
| 12. | ,, , Canal Boats | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| 13. | ,, , Stables | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| 14. | ,, , Piggeries | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 44 |
| 15. | ,, , Slaughterhouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 546 |
| 16. | ,, , Vans and Tents | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33 |
| 17. | ,, , General Food Premises (inc. Ice Cream Manuf.) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 374 |
| 18. | ,, , Swimming baths | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 37 |
| 19. | ,, , Hotels | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 20. | ,, , Workplaces | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| 21. | ,, , Cinemas and Theatres | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 27 |
| 22. | ,, , Public Conveniences | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21 |
| 23. | ,, , Butchers Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 79 |
| 24. | ,, , Fried Fish Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54 |
| 25. | ,, , Premises on account of Rats and Mice Infestations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 249 |
| 26. | Visits in connection with watercourses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| 27. | ,, in connection with water supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| 28. | ,, in connection with Shops Acts | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 215 |
| 29. | No. of drain tests applied in connection with defective drainage and rat infestations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 101 |
| 30. | Miscellaneous visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 490 |
| 31. | Inspection of Market Ground and Stalls... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34 |
| 32. | Interviews | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 786 |

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The number of factory and works chimneys situated within the Borough is 74.

The local Bye-Law limit for emission of black smoke is a maximum of 2 minutes in one half hour.

A total of 70 observations were made during the year. 22 observations shewed the emission of black smoke in excess of the Bye-Law limit. 15 of these were from two colliery chimneys. In some cases improvement has been obtained after visits to the Boiler house staff and representations made to the Managements concerned.

The Local Authority is a member of the National Smoke Abatement Society, the Regional Committee and also the Standing Joint Committee of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research on Atmospheric Pollution.

HOUSING

General Observations.

A considerable number of working class houses do not possess baths, hot water or a food store. Dampness is prevalent in a large proportion of the older type of houses. Approximately 20% are over 60 years of age and are worn out. Mining subsidence continues to be prevalent in some parts of the district with the consequent adverse effect on the structural fabric and damp proof courses. There are no back to back houses within the Borough.

Overcrowding.

During the year, 74 reported cases of Overcrowding were investigated and letters confirming the existence of overcrowding in 44 cases were sent to the Housing Director, recommending early consideration for re-housing.

Allocation of houses is the responsibility of the Housing Committee who operate a "points" scheme. The extent of overcrowding within the Borough is not accurately known and would require a complete survey of all dwelling houses. The availability of staff does not warrant such a survey at the moment.

Sufficiency of Supply of Houses.

At the end of the year there were 1,850 applicants on the Corporation Housing list of which 1,321 were living in lodgings. The type of house now under construction, *i.e.*, standard 3 bedroom with sitting room is considered likely to fulfil the general demand for family accommodation.

Erection of Dwelling Houses.

The Housing Director has supplied the following information :—

Schemes were in hand at the end of the year for the erection of houses on two new sites.

The total number of houses on the Rate Books at the end of the year was 14,280.

TABLE OF HOUSING STATISTICS

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year—

| | | | | | |
|----|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1. | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects | ... | ... | ... | 1267 |
| | No. of inspections made for the purpose | ... | ... | ... | 4312 |
| | No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| | No. of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | ... | ... | ... | 1263 |
| 2. | Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices | ... | ... | ... | 451 |
| 3. | Action under statutory powers during the year— | | | | |
| | (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| | (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936— | | | | |
| | No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | ... | 438 |
| | No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices— | | | | |
| | (a) By owners | ... | ... | ... | 172 |
| | (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | ... | ... | ... | 54 |

List of Nuisances Found and Remedied

| Nature | Found | Remedied |
|------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Drains | 140 | 91 |
| Roofs | 128 | 138 |
| Eaves | 194 | 238 |
| Walls | 98 | 136 |
| Plaster, damp | 212 | 205 |
| Plaster, defective | 239 | 241 |
| Closets, water | 198 | 187 |
| Closets, waste water | 15 | 11 |
| Sinks | 44 | 55 |
| Sink pipes | 24 | 22 |
| Floors | 118 | 104 |
| Yards and Paving | 11 | 12 |
| Window frames | 145 | 101 |
| Insufficient ventilation... | 64 | 37 |
| Dirty and unwholesome houses | 28 | 8 |
| Doors | 48 | 28 |
| Insufficient water supply | 48 | 26 |
| Other defects | 251 | 177 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| No. of defects dealt with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2005 |
| No. of defects abated | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1817 |
| No. of defects remaining to be dealt with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 188 |

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

The food supply including meat and milk is under constant supervision. The Sanitary Inspectors made a total of 546 visits to slaughterhouses, 149 visits to Bakehouses, 118 visits to Dairies and Milk Shops and 374 visits to wholesale and retail food shops.

Meat Inspection.

The Ministry of Food Depot at Leigh is the central depot for slaughter and distribution of Meat for Leigh, Atherton, Tyldesley, Golborne, Earlestown and Newton-le-Willows-an approximate population of 125,000.

Ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations of all animals received at the Depot are carried out.

There is also a Bacon Factory situated within the Borough where slaughtering and curing takes place daily.

Oxen are stunned by captive bolt pistol and calves, sheep and pigs by the use of electrically charged stunning tongs.

The table which follows gives details regarding all animals which were slaughtered and inspected during 1948.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

| | Cattle excluding cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep & Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|--------|------------------|-------|
| No. killed... .. | 2866 | 1669 | 1140 | 15,539 | 3045 |
| No. inspected | 2866 | 1669 | 1140 | 15,539 | 3045 |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis | | | | | |
| Whole carcase condemned ... | 3 | 8 | 3 | 16 | 5 |
| Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned | 1745 | 506 | 9 | 3950 | 320 |
| Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with disease or parasitic conditions other than Tuberculosis | 61.00 | 30.79 | 1.05 | 25.51 | 10.67 |
| Tuberculosis Only. | | | | | |
| *Whole carcases condemned | 9 | 102 | 3 | — | 16 |
| *Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 189 | 505 | 2 | — | 146 |
| Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with Tuber- culosis | 6.90 | 36.36 | 0.44 | — | 5.32 |

*Eight cows were sent for slaughter under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938 by a Veterinary Surgeon, and are included in these figures.

Inspection of Other Foods.

The following table gives a list of Foods condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Condemned Foods

| Article | Quantity | Size |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bacon | 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. | |
| Bacon | 3 tins | 1's |
| | 4 tins | 16 ozs. |
| Barley | 48 pkts. | |
| Beef with Cereal | 1 tin | 12 ozs. |
| Broth, Beef | 1 tin | 10 ozs. |
| Broth, Scotch | 2 tins | |
| Brisket Beef | 3 tins | 4lbs. |
| Butter | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. | |
| Chocolate Almond Creams... .. | 114 lbs. | |
| Chopped Ham | 30 tins | 12 ozs. |
| Chutney | 9 jars | |
| Crab Meat | 8 tins | $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| Dessert Moulds | 60 pkts. | |
| Fish—Tinned Pilchards | 3 tins | A1 |
| | 20 tins | 8 oz.s |
| | 9 tins | Oval |
| „ Tinned Sardines | 32 tins | $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| „ Cured Kippers | 238 lbs. | |
| „ Cured Haddock | 28 lbs. | |
| Fruit—Dried Prunes | 513 lbs. | |
| Fruit—Tinned Apricots | 14 tins | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| „ Apples | 1 tin | 7 lbs. |
| „ Apples sieved | 1 tin | |
| „ Grapefruit | 3 tins | A1 |
| | 3 tins | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| | 74 tins | 2's |
| „ Grapes | 5 tins | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| „ Greengages | 6 tins | 25 ozs. |
| „ Peaches... .. | 2 tins | 10's |
| | 26 tins | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| „ Pears | 3 tins | A2's |
| | 6 tins | Gall. |
| „ Pineapple | 5 tins | A2's |
| „ Plums | 5 tins | Gall. |
| | 12 tins | A2's |
| | 20 tins | 2's |
| | 11 tins | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| „ Raspberries | 8 tins | 2's |
| „ Rhubarb | 4 tins | 2's |
| „ Fruit Cocktail | 16 tins | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| Luncheon Meat and Sausage | 166 tins | 12 ozs. |
| | 30 tins | 16 ozs. |
| | 17 tins | 20 ozs. |
| | 16 tins | 27 ozs. |
| | 9 tins | 2's |
| Veal Loaf | 32 tins | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |
| Milk | 61 tins | 16 ozs. |
| | 50 tins | 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |
| | 40 tins | 13 ozs. |
| | 77 tins | 1's |
| | 83 tins | 1 $\frac{3}{4}$'s |
| Mussels | 37 tins | 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |
| | 21 tins | 14 ozs. |
| Nuts—Walnuts | 21 lbs. | |
| Ox Tongue | 12 tins | 6 lbs. |
| | 1 tin | 16 lbs. |
| Pate de fois | 3 jars | |
| Potted Paste | 2 jars | 3 ozs. |

| Article | Quantity | Size |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Potted Meat | 30 jars | 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ozs. |
| | 17 jars | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |
| Pork | 6 tins | 2 ozs. |
| Pork with Brawn | 3 tins | 2 ozs. |
| Puddings—Milk | 1 pkt. | |
| „ Wonder | 222 pkts. | 8 ozs. |
| „ Barley Mixture | 24 pkts. | 8 ozs. |
| Preserves—Marmalade... .. | 17 jars | 2 lbs. |
| | 3 jars | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. |
| Preserves—Marmalade... .. | 7 tins | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. |
| | 6 tins | 7's |
| | 7 tins | 12 ozs. |
| Melon & Pineapple Jam | 2 jars | |
| Ryvita | 50 pkts. | |
| Salmon | 21 tins | 1's tall |
| | 1 tin | $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| Stewed Steak... .. | 91 tins | 16 ozs. |
| | 7 tins | A1's |
| | 55 tins | 1's |
| Soups | 22 tins | 1's |
| | 28 tins | 16 ozs. |
| | 1 tin | 10 ozs. |
| Spaghetti | 1 tin | 16 ozs. |
| Semolina | 44 pkts. | |
| Tomatoes | 3 tins | 2's |
| | 18 tins | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| | 14 tins | 1's |
| | 3 tins | 16 ozs. |
| | 19 tins | 3's |
| Treacle | 1 tin | 2 lbs. |
| Turkeys | 121 lbs. | 3 ozs. |
| Vegetables—Tinned Beans | 2 tins | 8 ozs. |
| | 1 tin | 16 ozs. |
| | 10 tins | 1's tall |
| Tinned Beetroot | 1 tin | 2's |
| Tinned Carrots | 51 tins | 1's |
| | 5 tins | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| Tinned M & V. Ration | 8 tins | 16 ozs. |
| | 7 tins | 1's tall |
| Tinned Mixed Veg. | 2 tins | 2's |
| | 5 tins | 1's |
| Tinned Peas | 22 tins | A2's |
| | 3 tins | 10 ozs. |
| | 13 tins | A1's |
| | 15 tins | 2's |
| | 53 tins | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$'s |
| | 69 tins | 16 ozs. |
| Tinned Potatoes | 3 tins | 2's |

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

116 samples of milk and other foods were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. The following classified table gives the results of the analysis of the samples.

Samples Taken — Food and Drugs Act, 1938

| Article | Number examined | | | | Number adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|---|----------|---------|-------|
| | Formal | Informal | Private | Total | Formal | Informal | Private | Total |
| Tonic Mixture ... | 2 | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Brawn | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Cake flour | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| Digestive Mints ... | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Soft drink | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Meat, Potted | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Milk | 65 | 17 | 1 | 83 | 5 | 3 | — | 8 |
| Sweets | 2 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| Beef Sausage | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Salad Oil | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Skimmed Milk Powder | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Wine (British) ... | — | 3 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — |
| Food Colouring Materials | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| Jam | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| Lemon Cheese | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Olive Oil | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Salad Dressing ... | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Sulphur Tablets ... | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Vinegar, Malt... .. | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Gin | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Marmalade | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Mint Sauce | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Preserved Ginger in Syrup | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Rum | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| Salad Cream | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Tea | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| | 71 | 44 | 1 | 116 | 7 | 5 | — | 12 |

The percentage adulteration on all samples being 10.3 against 13.4 in 1947.

Adulterated Samples — Food and Drugs Act, 1938

| No | Article | Nature of Adulteration or irregularity | Observations |
|------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| 890 | Meat Potted (Formal) | Contained 12.3 per cent. excess water and 5.5 per cent. starch. | Manufacturers agreed to improve this commodity |
| 894 | Tonic (Phos-Vita) (Formal) | No declaration on article or label. Offence under the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941 | Vendor cautioned |
| 896 | Digestive Mints (Informal) | Contained 5.4 per cent. silicious matter of the nature of talc without declaration in the formula. Contravention of Pharmacy and Medicines Act | Packers agreed to amend formula |
| 903 | Milk (Informal) | Deficient 2.3 per cent. solids-not-fat ; freezing point indicated 1.1 per cent. extraneous water | Advised vender be cautioned |
| 904 | Milk (Informal) | Deficient 14.1 per cent. solids-not-fat ; freezing point indicated 10.7 per cent. extraneous water | Same vendor See 912 and 913 |
| 905 | Milk (Informal) | Deficient 8.3 per cent. fat and 14.7 per cent. solids-not-fat ; freezing point indicated 10.7 per cent. extraneous water | |
| 910 | Milk (Formal) | Deficient 13.3 per cent. fat | |
| 911 | Milk (Formal) | Freezing point indicated 2.6 per cent. extraneous water | Same vendor. Advised vendor be cautioned |
| 912 | Milk (Formal) | Deficient 9.4 per cent. solids-not-fat ; freezing point indicated 7.6 per cent. extraneous water | |
| 913 | Milk (Formal) | Deficient 3.3 per cent. fat & 10.5 per cent. solids-not-fat ; freezing point indicated 7.6 per cent. extraneous water | Same vendor taken on delivery to 904 and 905 Fined £10 and costs |
| 926 | Beef Sausage (Informal) | Contained 150 parts per million Sulphur Dioxide preservative without declaration | Advised vendor be cautioned |
| 1001 | Milk (Formal) | Deficient 3.3 per cent. milk fat | Vendor notified |

Average Composition of Milk Samples — 1940 - 1948 Table

| Year | No. of samples | Fat | Solids-not-fat | Total solids | % Adulterated |
|---|----------------|------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1940 ... | 90 | 3.77 | 8.80 | 12.57 | 3.3 |
| 1941 ... | 88 | 3.70 | 8.68 | 12.38 | 1.1 |
| 1942 ... | 78 | 3.60 | 8.67 | 12.27 | 5.1 |
| 1943 ... | 61 | 3.79 | 8.60 | 12.39 | 3.3 |
| 1944 ... | 50 | 3.70 | 8.53 | 12.23 | 4.0 |
| 1945 ... | 38 | 3.61 | 8.55 | 12.16 | 7.9 |
| 1946 ... | 34 | 3.57 | 8.55 | 12.12 | 5.9 |
| 1947 ... | 60 | 3.81 | 8.52 | 12.33 | 16.6 |
| 1948 ... | 83 | 3.7 | 8.60 | 12.30 | 9.6 |
| Average for whole of the County districts for 1948 | | 3.67 | 8.64 | 12.11 | 6.6 |

Milk and Dairies Orders.

It is estimated that approximately 80% of the milk retailed within the Borough is heat-treated, being pasteurised or sterilised.

All schools and hospitals in the Borough receive pasteurised milk.

There are 32 dairy farms, including one accredited farm, within the Borough with approximately 400 cows. During the year 119 visits were paid to these farms. At one farm the cowsheds and dairy have been completely remodelled, while negotiations are proceeding for the provision of a piped water supply at two other farms.

The Presence of Tubercle Bacilli in Milk.

110 samples of raw milk were submitted to the biological test for the presence of tubercle bacilli. Tubercle bacilli proved to be present in 9 or 7.7% of the samples. In all cases where the presence of T.B. was confirmed the Divisional Veterinary Surgeon of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was notified.

8 samples of heat-treated milk were submitted to the biological test for the presence of tubercle bacilli. All these samples were negative.

The following tables give details of all milk samples taken for bacteriological examination and also average composition of Milk samples from 1940 to 1948.

Examination of Milk Samples

| Designation | No. taken | NATURE OF TEST | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | | Methylene Blue | | Coliform Test | | Bacterial Count | | Tubercle Bacilli | | Phosphatase Test | |
| | | Satis- factory | Unsatis- factory | Satis- factory | Unsatis- factory | Satis- factory | Unsatis- factory | Present | Absent | Satis- factory | Unsatis- factory |
| Raw | 117 | 100 | 17 | 93 | 23 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 101 | — | — |
| Accredited | 8 | 7 | 1 | 8 | — | — | — | — | 6 | — | — |
| Pasteurised... | 32 | 30 | — | 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 | — | 8 | 22 | 1 |
| Sterilised ... | 28 | 15 | 1 | 18 | — | 15 | 2 | — | — | 19 | — |

Registration of Hawkers and Premises.

Lancs. County Council (General Powers, etc.) Act, 1938.

Two applications were received during the year for the registration of persons and premises in respect of the sale and storage of fish, fruit and vegetables. After completion of the specified works at the premises the applications were granted. All such premises were regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Ice-Cream Manufacturers, etc.

It is pertinent to draw attention here to the fact that regulations relating to the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream were incorporated in the Leigh Corporation Act of 1903, and as a matter of interest are given below :—

Section 206.

1. Any person being a manufacturer of or merchant or dealer in ice cream or other similar commodity within the borough—

(a) Causes or permits ice cream or any similar commodity to be manufactured sold or stored in any cellar or room in which there is an inlet or opening to a drain ; or

(b) In the manufacture sale or storage of any such commodity does any act or thing likely to expose such commodity to infection or contamination or omits to take any proper precaution for the due protection of such commodity from infection or contamination ; or

(c) Omits on the outbreak of any infectious disease amongst the persons employed in his business to give notice thereof to the Medical Officer ;

shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings.

2. In the event of any inmate of any building (any part of which is used for the manufacture of ice cream or similar commodity) suffering from any infectious disease the medical officer may seize and destroy all ice cream or similar commodity or materials for the manufacture of the same in such building and the Corporation shall compensate the owner of the ice cream commodity or materials so destroyed.

Four applications were received for the sale of ice-cream only during the year. All were granted.

During the year one manufacturer ceased to manufacture and the registration of one other was revoked by the Health Committee after action under the Act.

There are, at present, 4 manufacturers of Ice Cream with premises situated within the Borough. It is a requirement under the provisions of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947, that ingredients of ice cream shall be heat treated after being mixed and that the mixture shall then be cooled until the freezing process is begun. After freezing the ice cream must be kept at a temperature of not more than 28° F. until it is sold. An exception is made in the case of a manufactured product described as a "complete cold mix" which can be made into ice cream by the addition of water only and when reconstituted for manufacture must be converted into ice cream within one hour of reconstitution.

The following is a list of samples of Ice Cream submitted to the Methylene Blue Test.

| No. of Samples | Grade I | Grade II | Grade III | Grade IV |
|----------------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 19 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 5 |

RATS AND MICE

All premises in regard to which there are complaints of infestation by rats or mice are visited by the Sanitary Inspectors and Rodent Operator.

During the year, 249 complaints were received and investigated. 47 chemical tests were carried out on drainage systems. In 38 cases defective drainage systems were found and subsequently repaired with the result that no further infestations occurred.

The following is a Summary of the visits made to various premises.

Summary of Visits made to Various Premises

| Premises | No. of Visits | Non-Poisonous Bait | | Poison Baits | | Bodies Found |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | | Laid | Taken | Laid | Taken | |
| Houses | 422 | 557 | 254 | 93 | 91 | 70 |
| Factories | 92 | 718 | 191 | 69 | 61 | 9 |
| Food premises | 56 | 109 | 29 | 23 | 22 | 20 |
| Hen runs | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Shops (Not food) ... | 10 | 29 | 4 | 2 | 2 | — |
| Clubs | 5 | 13 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| Tips | 49 | 825 | 265 | 93 | 91 | 34 |
| Brooks | 39 | 235 | 77 | 26 | 26 | 5 |
| Farms | 5 | 24 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Schools | 9 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Slaughterhouses ... | 5 | 10 | — | — | — | — |
| Other Premises | 59 | 177 | 50 | 23 | 22 | 11 |
| TOTALS | 753 | 2711 | 893 | 337 | 323 | 153 |

Sewer Infestation.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' procedure as to the methods of pre-baiting and poisoning are adhered to throughout this work. The disinfestation of sewers comprises what is known as an initial treatment, followed by maintenance treatments of a similar kind at six-monthly intervals.

Two further maintenance treatments of sewers were undertaken and a comparative table of all treatments undertaken since the inception of this scheme in 1945 to date is shewn below. It would appear from the table that after each treatment a small residual rat population remains, due probably to good baiting points being inaccessible in the relatively large number of structurally old sewers in the affected areas. The rat population attains almost its former strength in between treatments. However, the fact that in treatments 5, 6 and 7 only manholes showing pre-bait takes were poison-treated coupled with the estimated kill declining from 693 to 437 suggests that the continuing treatments are having an appreciable effect on the rat population.

The Workable Area Committee for Rodent Control has formed a useful link with adjacent Authorities for discussion on problems affecting Rodent Control.

Sewer Treatment — Rats

| Year | Treatment No. | No. of Man-holes treated | Pre-Baiting (2 days) | | Poison Baiting | | | Estimated Kill |
|------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------|----|-----------|----------------|
| | | | Taken | N't tak'n | Taken | | Not Taken | |
| 1945 | 1. | 834 | 107 | 727 | 68 | 38 | 728 | 1160 |
| | 2. | 834 | 31 | 803 | 10 | 22 | 802 | 280 |
| 1946 | 3. | 224 | 137 | 311 | 36 | 37 | 151 | 660 |
| | 4. | 224 | 135 | 313 | 27 | 35 | 162 | 593 |
| 1947 | 5. | 87 | 119 | 55 | 42 | 20 | 25 | 693 |
| 1948 | 6. | 93 | 99 | 87 | 24 | 27 | 48 | 500 |
| | 7. | 102 | 75 | 129 | 24 | 16 | 62 | 427 |

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